

IC 4-4-3.5

Chapter 3.5. Tourism Information and Promotion Fund

IC 4-4-3.5-1

Definitions

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter:

"Fund" means the tourism information and promotion fund created by this chapter.

"Promotion" includes the planning and conducting of information and advertising campaigns.

"Tourism group" means any private not-for-profit corporation established under Indiana law whose purposes include the promotion of tourist resources and facilities within the state.

As added by Acts 1976, P.L. 7, SEC.1. Amended by Acts 1979, P.L. 21, SEC.1; Acts 1982, P.L. 15, SEC.11.

IC 4-4-3.5-2

Tourist information and promotion fund

Sec. 2. There is created a fund to be known as the "tourism information and promotion fund" to be used exclusively for the purpose of section 3 of this chapter. All money appropriated to the fund remains in the fund and does not revert to any other fund at the close of the fiscal year.

As added by Acts 1976, P.L. 7, SEC.1. Amended by Acts 1979, P.L. 21, SEC.2.

IC 4-4-3.5-3

Grants; matching funds

Sec. 3. The department of commerce may make grants from the fund to tourism groups for the promotion of tourist resources and facilities in the state. However, each grant must be matched by funds provided by the applicant, and the division may not provide more than one-half (1/2) the funds for a project. The matching funds required by the applicant may be provided by any source except other state funds.

As added by Acts 1976, P.L. 7, SEC.1. Amended by Acts 1979, P.L. 21, SEC.3; Acts 1982, P.L. 15, SEC.12.

IC 4-4-3.5-4

Application for grant; requisites

Sec. 4. An application for a grant from the fund must include:

- (1) a detailed description of the proposed project;
- (2) the short and long-term goals of the project; and
- (3) an estimate of the total cost of the project based on at least two (2) competitive bids for the materials and services involved wherein applicable.

As added by Acts 1976, P.L. 7, SEC.1.

IC 4-4-3.5-4.5

Tourist information and grant fund review committee

Sec. 4.5. (a) There is created a tourist information and grant fund review committee. The committee consists of nine (9) voting members and six (6) nonvoting members appointed by the director of the department of commerce.

(b) The nine (9) voting members shall be:

- (1) the lieutenant governor or his designee; and
- (2) eight (8) other persons with expertise in evaluation of tourism information and promotion fund grant requests and an interest in the development of the tourism industry in this state, one (1) of whom must be an employee of the department of commerce.

The six (6) nonvoting members shall be chosen from among the members of the Indiana general assembly. No more than three (3) of those nonvoting members may be of the same political party.

(c) Initially, three (3) of the members appointed pursuant to clause (3) of subsection (b) shall be designated to serve a two (2) year term and the other four (4) members shall be designated to serve a four (4) year term. Thereafter, these members or their successors shall serve a four (4) year term. The six (6) nonvoting members shall serve the lesser of a two (2) year term or until their current term of office as a member of the Indiana general assembly expires. The director shall appoint members in such a manner as to fairly represent all geographic areas of Indiana.

(d) Committee members shall serve without pay and may not be reimbursed for any expenses.

(e) The lieutenant governor may remove any member from the committee upon a showing of good cause.

As added by Acts 1979, P.L.21, SEC.4. Amended by Acts 1981, P.L.24, SEC.4; Acts 1982, P.L.15, SEC.13.

IC 4-4-3.5-5

Approval of application

Sec. 5. After consideration of the general merits, potential effectiveness, total cost, and other factors regarding the proposed project, the committee shall recommend to the executive director of the department of commerce that the application be approved or disapproved, in whole or in part. However, the executive director of the department of commerce shall, based upon the committee's recommendation, make the final determination of approval or disapproval of each application.

As added by Acts 1976, P.L.7, SEC.1. Amended by Acts 1979, P.L.21, SEC.5; Acts 1982, P.L.15, SEC.14.

IC 4-4-3.5-6

Amount of grant; allocation; requisites

Sec. 6. (a) If the application is approved, the department of commerce shall determine the amount of the grant to be made from the fund for the project. When affirmative action on an application has been taken and the appropriate parties notified, the department of commerce shall allocate the sum granted from the fund to the

account of the tourism group from which the application originated.

(b) The department of commerce may indicate its intention to reimburse a tourism group for tourism promotion activities by sending the group a letter of credit. However, the department of commerce may not pay any monies to a group for a project until that project is completed. A group may submit vouchers, receipts, and other materials to indicate that a project is completed.

As added by Acts 1976, P.L. 7, SEC.1. Amended by Acts 1982, P.L.15, SEC.15.

IC 4-4-3.5-7

Promotional materials; required statement

Sec. 7. All promotional materials produced with the assistance of funds provided under this chapter must include the following statement: "Produced in cooperation with the Indiana Department of Commerce."

As added by Acts 1976, P.L. 7, SEC.1. Amended by Acts 1979, P.L.21, SEC.6; Acts 1982, P.L.15, SEC.16.

IC 4-4-3.5-8

Rules and regulations

Sec. 8. The department of commerce may promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to IC 4-22-2 to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

As added by Acts 1979, P.L.21, SEC.7. Amended by Acts 1982, P.L.15, SEC.17.